

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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TAGS:TGEN, TPHY, TBIO, SENV, AORG

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEAS

1. DR. WARREN S. WOOSTER, ONE OF THE U.S. DELEGATES TO ICES AND A MEMBER OF ITS BUREAU WHICH WILL MEET IN EARLY MAY, HAS SOUGHT THE DEPT'S ADVICE CONCERNING ICES BUREAU DOC NO. 412 ENTITLED QTE THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL RELATIONS WITH COMMISSIONS RECEIVING SCIENTIFIC ADVICE FROM IT UNQTE. THE DEPT. FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO GIVE ADEQUATE ADVICE SINCE IT DOES NOT UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING IN THE SUBJECT DOC. ACCORDINGLY, THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FROM THE ICES GENERAL SECRETARY. IN DOING SO IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT THE U.S. HAS NOT TAKEN A POSITION WITH RELATION TO THESE QUESTIONS OR THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF THE DOC BUT IS MERELY SEEKING CLARIFICATION PRIOR TO THE MAY 11 BUREAU MEETING. THE DEPT. MUST HAVE A RESPONSE BY COB ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

A. WHAT IS THE REASON, REPORTED IN PARA 6 OF SUBJECT DOC, FOR THE OSLO COMMISSION TO OPPOSE A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH ICES ALONG THE LINES OF THE NEAFC-ICES AGREEMENT?

B. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE SPECULATION IN SAME PARA

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THAT PARIS AND HELSINKI COMMISSIONS WOULD TAKE SAME ATTITUDE.

C. WHY DOES HE STATE IN PARA 8 THAT THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED VIS-A-VIS DIFFERENCES IN MEMBERSHIP BETWEEN ICES AND THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THE DOCUMENT? DOESN'T THE EXISTENCE OF THE ADDITIONAL BODIES MEAN A MORE COMPLEX MIX, AND A GREATER DISPARITY BETWEEN THE NORTH AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN MEMBERS?

D. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THIS DIFFERENCE WAS CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPING THE PRESENT FINANCIAL FORMULA AS MENTIONED IN PARA 9, DOESN'T THE ADDITIONAL MIX OF MEMBERSHIPS SUGGEST THAT THE FORMULA MIGHT HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED AGAIN?

E. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE STATEMENT IN PARA 10 COULD BE ELABORATED. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN IT FOLLOWS FROM THE PREVIOUS DISCUSSION.

F. SINCE WE ARE NOT CERTAIN OF THE OSLO COMMISSION'S REASONING, WE ARE NOT SURE ABOUT PARA 11 AND WOULD APPRECIATE ELABORATION.

G. DOES THE STATEMENT IN PARA 12 IMPLY REVISING THE FORMULA TO INCREASE THE SHARES OF NEAFC AND IBSFC MEMBERS AND DECREASE THE SHARES OF NON-MEMBERS? IF NOT, HOW WOULD THOSE MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO ICES?

H. THERE IS ALSO THE IMPLICATION IN PARA 12 THAT THE NEAFC AND IBSFC CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DE MINIMUS IN THAT THEY REPRESENT ONLY 5 PER CENT OF THE ICES BUDGET. ISN'T IT TRUE THAT A GREAT DEAL MORE THAN 5 PERCENT OF ICES' EFFORTS ARE DEVOTED TO NEAFC? THUS, SHOULDN'T CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO ICES INSISTING THAT THE NEAFC CONTRIBUTION BE RAISED RATHER THAN ELIMINATED (WITHOUT IMPLYING THAT THE EXACT COST OF SERVICES TO NEAFC COULD OR EVEN SHOULD BE THE SOLE DETERMINANT OF THE CONTRIBUTION)/

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I. DOESN'T THE STATEMENT IN PARA 15 CONTRADICT THE CONCLUSION THAT THE NEAFC CONTRIBUTION TO ICES SHOULD BE ELIMINATED OR PHASED OUT?

J. ALTHOUGH NOT STATED DIRECTLY, AN INFERENCE CAN BE DRAWN FROM THE DOC THAT THE PROBLEM MAY STEM FROM DIFFERENT MINISTRIES IN SOME MEMBERS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR ICES AND FOR THE OSLO, PARIS, AND HELSINKI COMMISSIONS.

IS THIS SO? IF SO, ISN'T THE SOLUTION FOR THOSE MEMBERS

TO WORK OUT THEIR INTERNAL DIFFERENCES RATHER THAN FOR
ICES TO AMEND ITS LONG-STANDING MODE OF FISCAL OPERA-
TIONS? KISSINGER

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